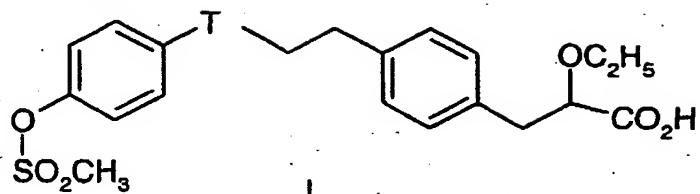


CLAIMS

1. A compound of formula I



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wherein T represents O, S or NR and wherein R represents a H, a C₁₋₆alkyl group or a phenyl C₁₋₆alkyl group and pharmaceutically acceptable salts thereof.

2. A compound according to claim 1 which is (2S)-2-ethoxy-3-[4-(2-{4-10 [(methylsulfonyl)oxy]phenoxy}ethyl)phenyl]propanoic acid.

3. A pharmaceutical formulation comprising a compound according to claim 1 or to claim 2 in admixture with pharmaceutically acceptable adjuvants, diluents and/or carriers.

15 4. A method of treating or preventing lipid disorders (dyslipidemia) whether or not associated with insulin resistance comprising the administration of a compound according to claim 1 or to claim 2 to a mammal in need thereof.

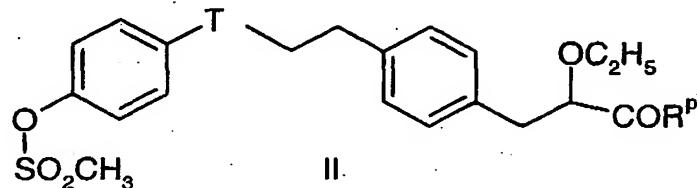
5. The use of a compound according to claim 1 or to claim 2 in the manufacture of a 20 medicament for the treatment of lipid disorders (dyslipidemia) whether or not associated with insulin resistance.

6. A method of treating or preventing type 2 diabetes comprising the administration of an effective amount of a compound of formula I according to claim 1 or to claim 2 to a mammal 25 in need thereof.

7. A pharmaceutical composition comprising a compound as claimed in claim 1 or claim 2 combined with another therapeutic agent that is useful in the treatment of disorders associated with the development and progress of atherosclerosis such as hypertension, 30 hyperlipidaemias, dyslipidaemias, diabetes and obesity.

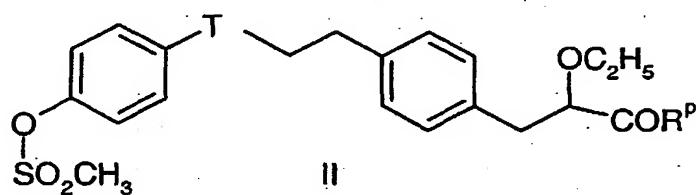
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8. A process to prepare a compound of formula I according to claim 1 comprising reacting a compound of formula II



5 in which T is as previously defined and R^P represents a protecting group for carboxylic hydroxy group with a de-protecting reagent.

9. A compound of formula II



10

in which T is as described in claim 1 and R^P represents a protecting group for carboxylic hydroxy group.

10. A prodrug of a compound of formula I according to claim 1 wherein the prodrug is an 15 *in vivo* hydrolysable (or cleavable) ester of the carboxylic acid group in the compound of formula (I).